

FOSTER SCHOOL DEPARTMENT  
MINUTES

Captain Isaac Paine School  
160 Foster Center Road  
Foster, RI 02825

Tuesday, Sept. 28, 2010  
Open Session - 7:00 pm

**1. Convene Meeting –**

Mr. Ron Cervasio, Chair, called the meeting of the foster School Committee to order at 7:00 pm on September 28, 2010.

*a. Roll Call –*

All members were present:

Ron Cervasio – Chair

Cindy Bernard – Vice Chair

Dennis Chretien – member

Dr. Davida Irving – Superintendent / Principal

Mr. Greg Piccirilli – Legal Counsel

Mrs. McCullough – FSC Secretary

*b. Pledge of Allegiance –*

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**2. Requests to Use School Facilities –**

The following requests were approved on a Chretien / Bernard motion. Vote – 3-0-0.

Cantering Colts 4H meetings on 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of each month.

Foster Recreation ‘Halloween Dance for Kids & Families of Foster’, Oct. 29, 2010.

Girl Scout meetings, 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of each month, Troop #270.

Girl Scout meetings 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month, Troop #359.

Cub Scout Pack 101 meetings on various dates.

Swamp Meadow Theater performance, and rehearsals, ‘Medieval Winter Solstice Revel’.

Cub Scout Pack 101 sign up night.

Foster Recreation Department, various classes for Foster residents to participate in.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

On a motion from Mr. Cervasio seconded by Mr. Chretien, the School Committee approved the Minutes of the August 9, 2010 Open Session. Motion passed. Vote – 2-0-1.

Vote as follows:

Mr. Cervasio – yes

Mrs. Bernard – abstained

Mr. Chretien - yes

**4. Approval of Warrants –**

On a motion by Mrs. Bernard and seconded by Mr. Chretien the School Committee tabled the Warrant dated 9/4/2010 due to a difference between the Check Register and check description run totals. Malcolm Moore, Business Manager, will investigate the issue and report back at

October's meeting and the School Committee can approve the warrant at that time. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

On a motion by Mr. Chretien and seconded by Mrs. Bernard the School Committee approved the Warrant dated 9/10/2010 in the amount of \$61,398.07. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

## **5. Old Business (for discussion/action)**

### *a. Intercom Bid Update –*

Dr. Irving reported the Town Council had approved a Capital Fund expense of \$10,000.00 for the upgrade and purchase of a new school wide intercom system and on September 30, 2010 is the planned opening of bids.

### *b. Budget 2010-2011 –*

Malcolm Moore, Business Manager, explained the Fund Balance Analysis report he provided the School Committee (analysis attached).

## **6. New business (for discussion/action)**

### *a. School Support Visit – Updates*

John Magner, Special Education Director, reported on the Special Education School Monitoring visit in the spring of 2010. A team from RIDE came to Paine School to evaluate the special education program. RIDE felt their visit and eval were successful with a few recommendations, which are being implemented. The report is available on-line.

### *b. House Aid Reimbursement for Capital Expenditures*

Mr. Chretien had asked for this item to be on the agenda. His concern being reimbursed from the Town for the painting in the school using the housing reimbursement funds and these monies going back into our budget.

### *c. Transportation - Regional Transportation Reimbursement –*

Malcolm Moore, Business Manager, reported that he attended a meeting at RIDE with Carolyn Dias and Cindy Brown concerning the Funding Formula. The state will be reimbursing the Region for the Transportation but then stated that those funds should come to the Foster School Department.

## **7. Communication/Reports**

### *a. Correspondence –*

The School Committee was provided with several pieces of correspondence; a letter from the Essential Support Personnel Union, which Dr. Irving read aloud at their request, a letter from the Audubon Society awarding the 2010 Educator of the year, a residency letter, a letter from the Town Council stating a cut of \$157, 533.30 to the School department's budget enacted under the authority granted to the Council by RIGL 16-7-23, and a letter requesting permission to home school Travis and Melanie Wilbur, grade 2, which the School Committee approved on a Chretien / Bernard motion. Vote = 3-0-0.

### *b. Superintendent's Report –*

Dr. Irving reported that 5 out of 8 buses are arriving on time and 3 buses arrive after the start of school by 3 to 5 minutes and that she was working with First Student to correct the situation. A successful open house was held on September 15<sup>th</sup>. The grass is growing on the playground but the use of that area is on hold. PTG expressed they would help support an After School Program. The student population has increased from 253 students at the end of last year to 279 as of 9/27/2010. The PTG's fund raiser "Farm to Table" was a success and raised over \$3000.00 for the school.

*c. Public Comment –*

There was no Public Comment.

*d. Future Agenda Items –*

Town Council Budget cuts – Mr. Chretien

BuyBoard – Mr. Chretien

8. On a motion by Mr. Chretien and seconded by Mrs. Bernard the School Committee voted to go into **Executive Session for discussion and/or action regarding those items of business referred to in R.I.G.L. 42-46-5a (1) Personnel (2) Collective Bargaining / Litigation, (9) Hearing on and discussion of grievance pursuant to collective bargaining agreement, filed by Education Support Personnel-Foster/NEARI, regarding termination of bargaining unit employees. This grievance hearing or discussion may take place in open session.** – Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

On a motion by Mrs. Bernard and seconded by Mr. Chretien the School Committee reconvened to Open Session. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

Mr. Cervasio stated the School Committee would hear the ‘Grievance hearing and presentation’ at this time.

Patrick Crowley, Assistant Executive Director of NEARI, presented the grievance for Cheryl Wright, Bus Driver, Beverly Crum, Bus Aid, and Carol Shippee, Bus Aid, stating several sections of the contract were breached, Article I, III, IV, XVI, IXX, & XX.

On a motion by Mr. Chretien and seconded by Mrs. Bernard the School Committee recessed into Executive Session. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

On a motion by Mr. Chretien and seconded by Mrs. Bernard the School Committee reconvened to Open Session. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

Mr. Cervasio relayed that a vote was taken and passed not to accept the grievance with a written statement within 10 days. Vote = 2-1-0.

Vote as follows:

Mr. Cervasio – yes

Mrs. Bernard – no

Mr. Chretien – yes

On a motion by Mrs. Bernard and seconded by Mr. Chretien the School Committee recessed to Executive Session. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

On a motion by Mr. Chretien and seconded by Mrs. Bernard the School Committee returned to Open Session. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

Mr. Cervasio relayed that the School Committee agreed to building and evaluation tool for the Superintendent / Principal. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

On a motion by Mr. Chretien and seconded by Mrs. Bernard the School Committee voted to seal the Executive Session Minutes. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

**9. Adjournment**

On a motion by Mr. Chretien and seconded by Mrs. Bernard the School Committee voted to adjourn 9:21 pm. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Helena McCullough  
Secretary Foster School Committee